Complaints Against the Bagalkot Cement Company

612. Sri B. T. MURNAL (Bagalkot).—

Will the Minister for Industries and Parliamentary Affairs be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether it is a fact that numerous complaints have been made to Government about the working of Bagalkot Cement Company (Bagalkot Udyog) ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that Government is thinking of nationalising the Bagalkot Cement Company (Bagalkot Udyog) ;

(*c*) whether the Government of Karnataka State paid a visit to the Bagalkot Udyog on 13-2-1974 ;

(*d*) if so, the reasons for visiting the factory ?

Sri S. M. KRISHNA (Minister for Industries and Parliamentary Affairs).—

(*a*) Complaints have been received regarding the quality of Cement produced by M/s. Bagalkot Udyog Ltd.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The Government of Karnataka paid a visit to the Bagalkot Cement Factory on 14-2-1974.

(*d*) The visit was in the general course of the Governor's tour in that area.

Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance

re: (i) damage to Crops due to Scarcity of Water in V. V. Sagar, Chitradurga

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಬಂಗಾರಪ್ಪ (ಸೊರಬ).—ಚಿತ್ರದುರ್ಗ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ವಾಣಿವಿಲಾಸ ಸಾಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರಿನ ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದ ಕೋಟ್ಯಾಂತರ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಾಳತಕ್ಕ ಬೆಳೆ ಹಾಳಾಗಿರತಕ್ಕ ವಿಷಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಗಮನವನ್ನು ಸೆಳೆಯುತ್ತೇನೆ.

Sri D. DEVARAJ URS (Chief Minister) —I made the following Statement.

The Hon'ble Member has given notice of a Motion, raising two specific issues. They are :

(1) the crops under the Vani Vilas Sagar have failed due to shortage of water in the reservoir ; and

(2) a difficult situation has arisen due to the stoppage of subsidy to irrigation and drinking water wells and that the people are agitating for the same.

(SRI D. DEVARAJ URS)

2. The atchkat under the Vani Vilas Sagar in Chitradurga district is suffering from short supply of water especially during the months of January to May, every year. The land owners have been urging for the supply of water during this particular period either by means of Lift Irrigation, or by diversion of water from other valleys. A representation was made to me when I visited Hiriyur on the 30th January 1974. I directed the Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation (South) to inspect the area and to provide relief to the suffering atchkatdars by means of Lift Irrigation wherever possible. The Chief Engineer made a detailed inspection of the area, and has proposed to instal pumpsets at various strategic points to stabilise the supply. In the main, the proposal consists of lifting water from the Vedavathi stream which has collected the seepage from the atchkat back into the main channel or into some convenient point in the atchkat and supply the same to the suffering cultivators. 12 Lift Irrigation schemes have been proposed for execution. Out of them, three Lift Irrigation schemes which could provide some permanent relief in due course have been selected by the Chief Engineer, who has sent estimates for the same. The works are :

Name of the Lift Irrigation Schemes		*Estimated Cost*
		Rs.
(1) Kasavanahalli L. I. Scheme :	...	2,47,800/—
(2) Yelanadu L. I. Scheme :	...	3,25,000/—
(3) Kodalihalli L. I. Scheme :	...	3,00,000/—

3. In view of the urgency, Government have sanctioned three Lift Irrigation Schemes and formal orders have been issued on 5th April 1974. The Chief Engineer is taking expeditious action to implement them.

4. The possibility of giving relief to the cultivators by the sinking of irrigation wells have also been examined. It has been decided by Government that the land development bank should sanction loans to eligible farmers for the sinking of bore wells under the atchkat. The Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation have been directed to see that atleast two fast well boring rigs are sent to the taluk for sinking these bore wells. With a view to expediting the sanction of loans, Government have decided to constitute small official teams, which will visit all the villagers, collect applications from the farmers, complete all the formalities like the grant of pahani extracts, encumbrance certificates and other details, and to see that loans are sanctioned with the greatest expedition.

5. Instructions have also been issued that loans could be sanctioned by the land development banks even in respect of persons who have taken loans for land improvement purposes from the Revenue Department, Government taking a second charge.

6. The Secretary to Government, Development, Housing and Panchayathraj and Co-operation Department is visiting Hiriyur taluk on Friday the 26th April 1974 and will issue directions to the officers on the spot to see that all delays are avoided.

7. So far as drinking water wells are concerned, new bore wells will be dug, wherever necessary. Instructions have been issued to the Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga, to deepen the existing wells, if such a course is desirable.

8. While all possible steps will be taken to help the cultivators to meet the existing difficult position, I would however like to observe that these difficulties have arisen due to some mistakes committed in the past. The atchkat under the Vani Vilas Sagar has expanded from the originally contemplated 8,000 acres to about 24,735 acres. There are also large areas under unauthorised irrigation. A number of pumpsets have been installed in the head reaches of the canal. The area which had been permitted to be cultivated is small, but the actual area has been in excess of what has been permitted. I have directed the Public Works Department to make survey of all such unauthorised use of pumpsets in the upper reaches, and to take steps to cut off power supply if need be.

I would like to elaborate this point.

The Government had once sanctioned lift Irrigation scheme. The people have installed pumpsets both authorisedly and unauthorisedly. The people have started lifting the water from the canal itself to the above reaches of the canal. Some people have put their pumpsets inso the canal and drawing water and that has gone on for ages unauthorisedly, That has not been checked.

Regarding the authorised lift irrigation, if the authorisation was for 5 acres, they have drawn water for 50 acres. The authorised farmers have exceeded the limit of cultivation by drawing more water. The area which had been permitted to be cultivated was small but the actual area under cultivation has been in excess.

9. The present cropping pattern under the Vani Vilas Sagar has not developed on scientific or systematic lines. It will not be correct to raise large areas under paddy or sugar-cane, which require large quantities of water. It is far better to go in for crops which require lighter irrigation like Ragi, Maize, Cocoanuts etc. Action to develop a proper cropping pattern based on the availability of water, will also be worked out and I do hope that the cultivators of that area will fully co-operate in implementing such a programme.

(SRI D. DEVARAJ URS)

10. In the meantime, the Ryot Sangha of Hiriyur has been agaitating for the provision of immediate relief as also long term relief for the eultivators of the Vani Vilas Sagar atchkat. A public meeting bas been held on 15-4-1974 in which a decision was taken to observe hunger strike in front of the office of the Assistant Engineer, P.W.D. at Hiriyur and a relay hunger strike has been started and a number of participants which have been varying between 25-30 everyday.

11. On 19-4-1974, the Sangha organised a buudh and about 200 persons squatted on the National Highway No. 4 near the Inspection Bungalow and obstructed the traffic. The Deputy Commissioner and the police officers having jurisdiction persuaded the people to disperse peacefully.

12. On 22-4-1974, about 40 volunteers of the Ryots Sangha squatted in the verandah of the Office of the Tahsildar at about 10-00 a.m. and efforts of the officers concerned to persuade them to disperse proved fruitless. These agitators court arrested and they were removed by the police at about 16-30 hours and a case in Crime No. 61/74 under sections 143 and 341 of the Indian Penal Code has been registered and the persons arrested have been released on bail.

13. On 23-4-1974, about 30 persons gathered in the premises of the taluk office and prevented the Tahsildar and others from entering the office. Finally, 28 persons were arrested about 13-30 hours and were shifted to the police station. A case has been registered against them in Crime No. 63/74 under sections 143,341 and 186 of the Indian Penal Code. Another batch of agitators which subsequently obstructed the Tahsildar and office staff from entering the office have also been arrested and case registered in similar manner.

On 24 4-1974, about 40 women squatted in front of the Tahsildar's office and about 500 men had also assembled to support the agitators The officers concerned were able to persuade the agitators to give up picketing in front of the Government offices any the relay hunger strike in front of the P.W.D. office is still continuing.

15. In view of the steps already taken by the Government to provide relief in the area, I hope that the agitators will modify their obstructive approach to the problem and will co-operate with the Government in helping the ryots of the area.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಬಂಗಾರಪ್ಪ.—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈಗ ತ್ವರಿತವಾಗಿ ಅಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಬೋರ್‌ವೆಲ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆಗೆಯಲು ಎರಡು ರಿಗ್ಸ್‌ನ್ನು ಕಳಿಸಿಕೊಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ತೀರ್ಮಾನ ಮಾಡಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದೀರಿ; ಆದರೆ ಅವು ಸಾಲುವುದಿಲ್ಲ; ಏಕೆಂದರೆ ಈಗ ಬೆಳೆದು ನಿಂತಿರುವ ಬೆಳೆಯನ್ನು ಜಾಗ್ರತೆ ಉಳಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಿದ್ದರೆ ಕೋಟಿಗಟ್ಟಲೆ ಹಣ ನಷ್ಟವಾಗಬಹುದೆಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ; ಆದ ಕಾರಣ ಜಾಸ್ತಿ ರಿಗ್ ಯಂತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಅಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಕಳಿಸಿಕೊಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೀರೆ? ಮತ್ತು ಅನುಮತಿ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ

ಯಾರು ಯಾರು ಪಂಪ್‌ಸೆಟ್ಟುಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಕಿಕೊಂಡು ನೀರನ್ನು ದುರುಪಯೋಗಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ, ಅಂತಹವರ ಪಂಪ್‌ಸೆಟ್ಟುಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡಕೂಡದೆಂದು ಏನಾದರು ಆರ್ಡರ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದೀರಾ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ. ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸ್.—ತಾವು ಕೇಳುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗೆ ನೇರವಾಗಿ ಉತ್ತರ ಹೇಳಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ ಒಂದು ತೊಂದರೆ ಇದೆ. ಅನ್‌ಆಥರೈಸ್ಡ್ ಅಚ್ಚುಕಟ್ಟಿಗೆಲ್ಲಾ I am not here to give protection. Wherever it is authorised, I can give protection. ಅನುಮತಿ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ಬೆಳೆದ ಬೆಳೆ ಏನಾದರು ಹಾಳಾದರೆ ಆದಕ್ಕೆ ಅವರೇ ಜಬಾಬ್ದಾರಿ. ಇನ್ನು ತಾವು ಎರಡು ರಿಗ್ಸ್ ಸಾಲುವುದಿಲ್ಲ, ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಗೆ ಕೊಡಿ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದಿರಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಗೆ ಕೊಡಲು ನಮ್ಮ ಅಭ್ಯಂತರವೇನೂ ಇಲ್ಲ ಆದರೆ ಈಗ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಎರಡನ್ನೇ ಉಪಯೋಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಈಗ ಏನಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದರೆ, ಬಾವಿಗಳನ್ನೇ ತೆಗೆಸಬೇಡಿ ಎಂದು ಒಬ್ಬರಿಗೊಬ್ಬರು ಹೇಳಿಕೊಂಡು ನಮ್ಮನ್ನೆ ಕುಳಿತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಮತ್ತು ರ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ಡೆವಲಪ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ನಿಂದ ಸಾಲ ಕೊಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರೂ ಸಹ, ಅದು ಬೇಡ, ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದಲೇ ನೇರವಾಗಿ ತರಿಸುವವರೆಗೆ ಬಿಡಬೇಡಿ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುವವರಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದಕಾರಣ ನಮಗೆ ಯಾರಾದರು ಭೇಟಿಯಾದರೆ, ಅವರಿಗೆ ತಾವು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ವಿವೇಕ ಹೇಳುವುದರ ಮೂಲಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಕೊಡತಕ್ಕಂಥ ಸಾಧನಗಳನ್ನು ಉಪಯೋಗ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ತಮ್ಮ ಬೆಳೆಗಳನ್ನು ರಕ್ಷಣೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ, ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಬೇಡಿ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿ.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ಮುನಿಯಪ್ಪ.—12 ಲಿಫ್ಟ್ ಇರಿಗೇಷನ್ ಸ್ಕೀಮ್‌ಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಮೂರನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ಇರಾಖೆಯವರು ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದೀರಿ. ಈಗ ಆಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕಂಥ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಸುದಾರಿಸಲು ಜರೂರಾಗಿ ಇನ್ನೂ ಕೆಲವು ಸ್ಕೀಮುಗಳನ್ನು ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡುತ್ತೀರಾ ? ಮತ್ತು ಈಗ ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಸ್ಕೀಮುಗಳನ್ನು ತ್ವರಿತವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯರೂಪಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಜ್ಞೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿಕೊಡುತ್ತೀರಾ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ. ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸ್.—ಯಾವುಯಾವುದು ಶಕ್ತ ಇದೆಯೋ ಅದನ್ನು ಮಾಡುತ್ತೇವೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಬಂಗಾರಪ್ಪ.—ಈಗ ಪಂಪ್‌ಸೆಟ್ಟುಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ 5, 10, ಅಥವಾ 20 ವರ್ಷಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಒಪ್ಪಂದ ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ, ಆದರೆ ಕೆಲವರು ಅನುಮತಿ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ಪಂಪ್‌ಸೆಟ್ಟುಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಕಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರೆ, ಅಂತಹ ಪಂಪ್‌ಸೆಟ್ಟುಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವುದನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಿದರೆ ಆಗ ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಉದ್ಭವ ಬರಬಹುದು ; ಹಾಗೇನಾದರೂ ಆದರೆ ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿ ಸರಬರಾಜನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ತೊಂದರೆಯಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲವೇ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ. ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸ್.—ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡು ತರಹ ಅನ್ ಆಥರೈಸ್ಡ್ ಕಲ್ಟಿವೇಷನ್ ಇದೆ. ಕೆಲವರು ಅನುಮತಿ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ಲಿಫ್ಟ್ ಇರಿಗೇಷನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ ಮಾಡುವವರಿದ್ದರೆ, ಮತ್ತೆ ಕೆಲವರು 5 ಎಕರೆಗೆ ಅನುಮತಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು, ಅವರ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತೆ 10, 20, 30, ಎಕರೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಕಬ್ಬನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆಸಿರುವವರಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರು ಇಷ್ಟೊಂದು ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಯಾಗಿರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಇದೇ ಕಾರಣ. ಇಂತವರಿಗೆ ನಾವು ರಕ್ಷಣೆ ಕೊಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋದರೆ ತೀರ ಕೆಳಗಿರುವ ಜಮೀನಿನವರಿಗೆ ಯಾವ ರೀತಿ ರಕ್ಷಣೆ ಕೊಡುವುದು ? ಆದಕಾರಣ ನಾವು ನೀರನ್ನು ಕೊಡುವಾಗ ಇದೆಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ ಗಮನದಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

(ii) *Re* ; Lathi Charge on workers of ACC Heavy Engineering Factory, Shahbad

Sri M. S. KRISHNAN (Malleswaram).—I beg to call the attention of the Hon'ble Chief Minister to the situation arising out of the brutal Lathi Charge on workers of A.C.C. Heavy Engineering Works, Shahabad on 22nd April 1974.